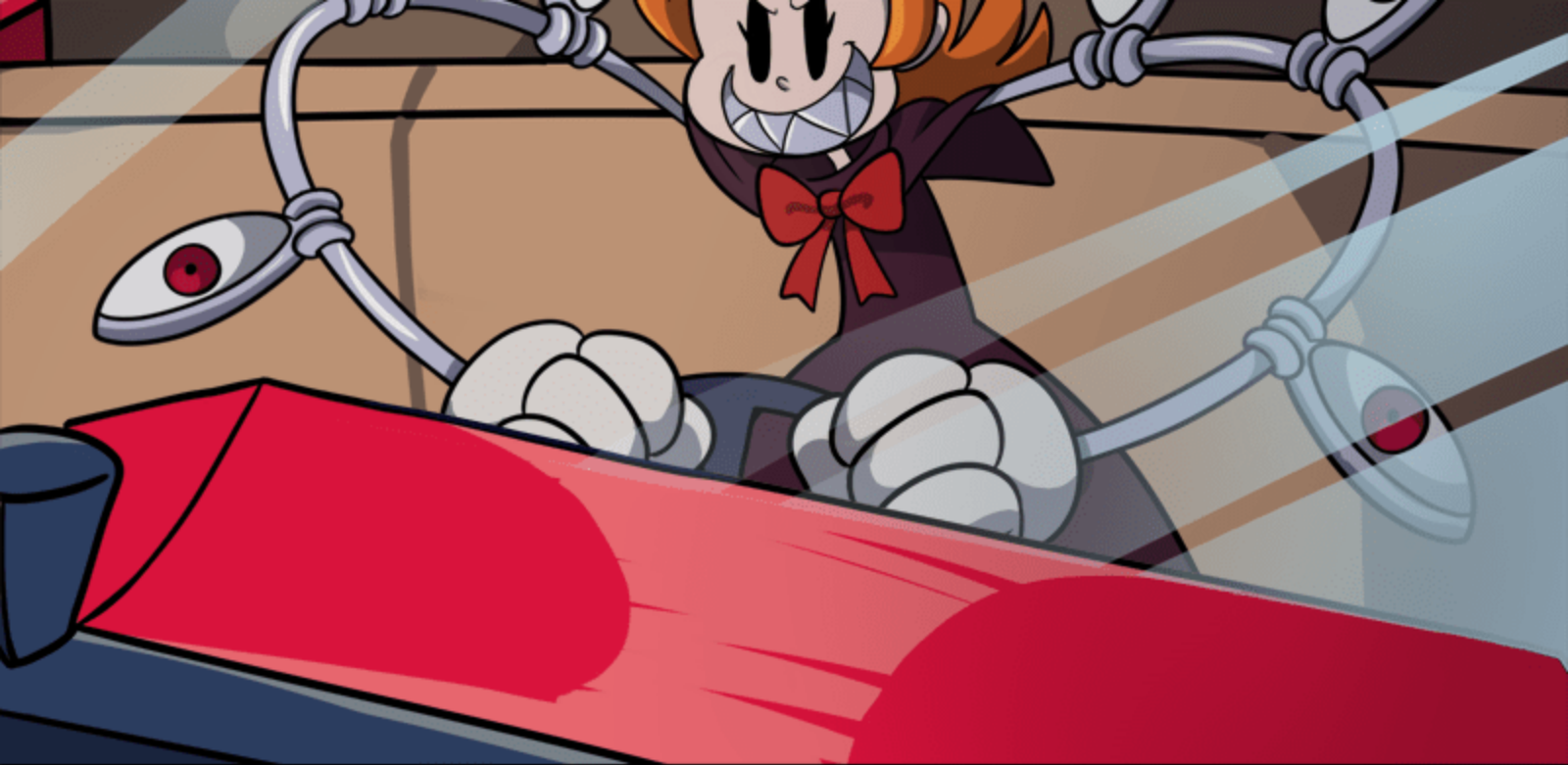








ACTION,
ACTION,
ACTION!



Y'KNOW,
IT'D BE NICE IF I
HAD SOME PALS TO
SHARE THIS WITH...







YOU DON'T
HAFTA ASK
ME TWICE!

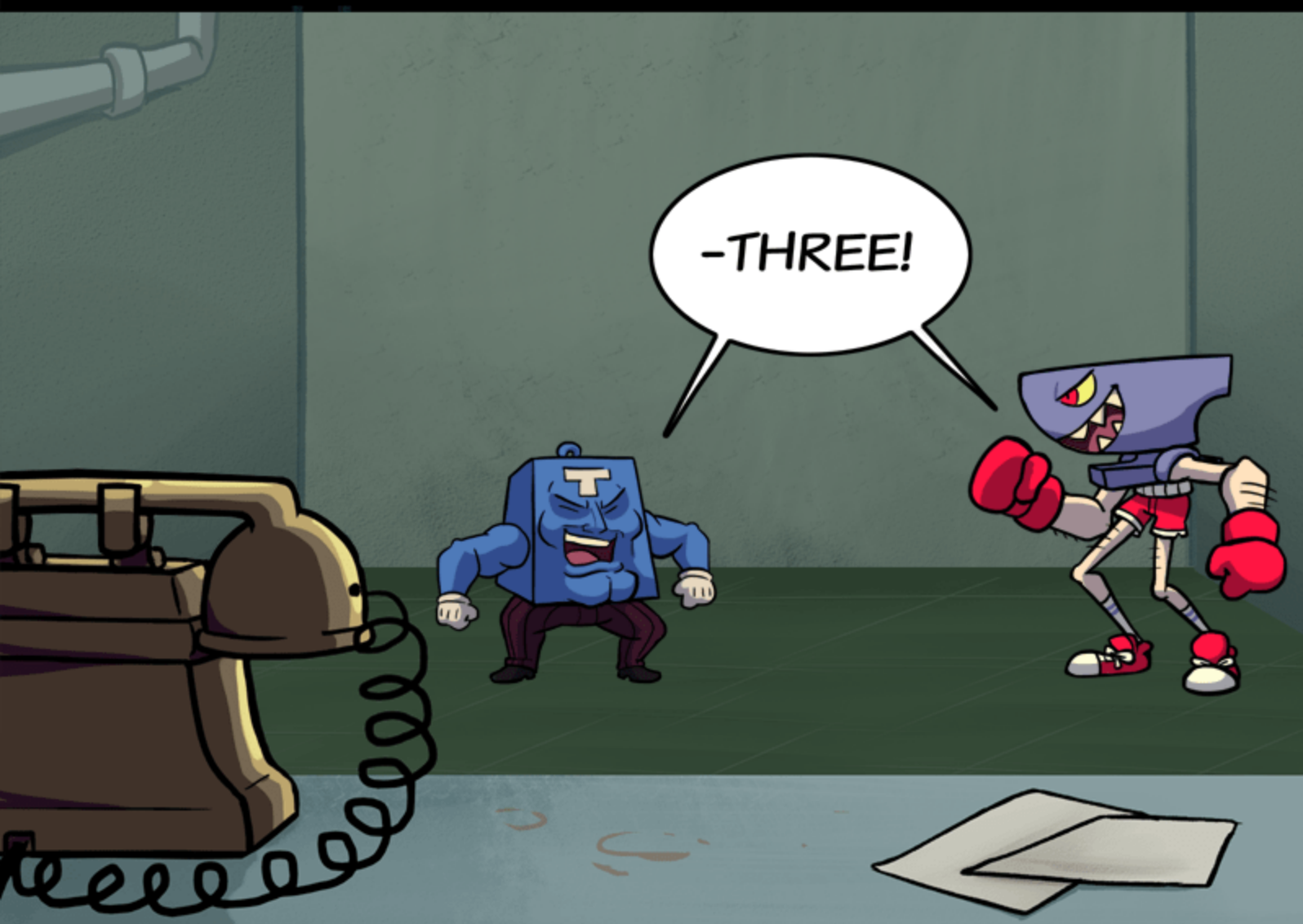


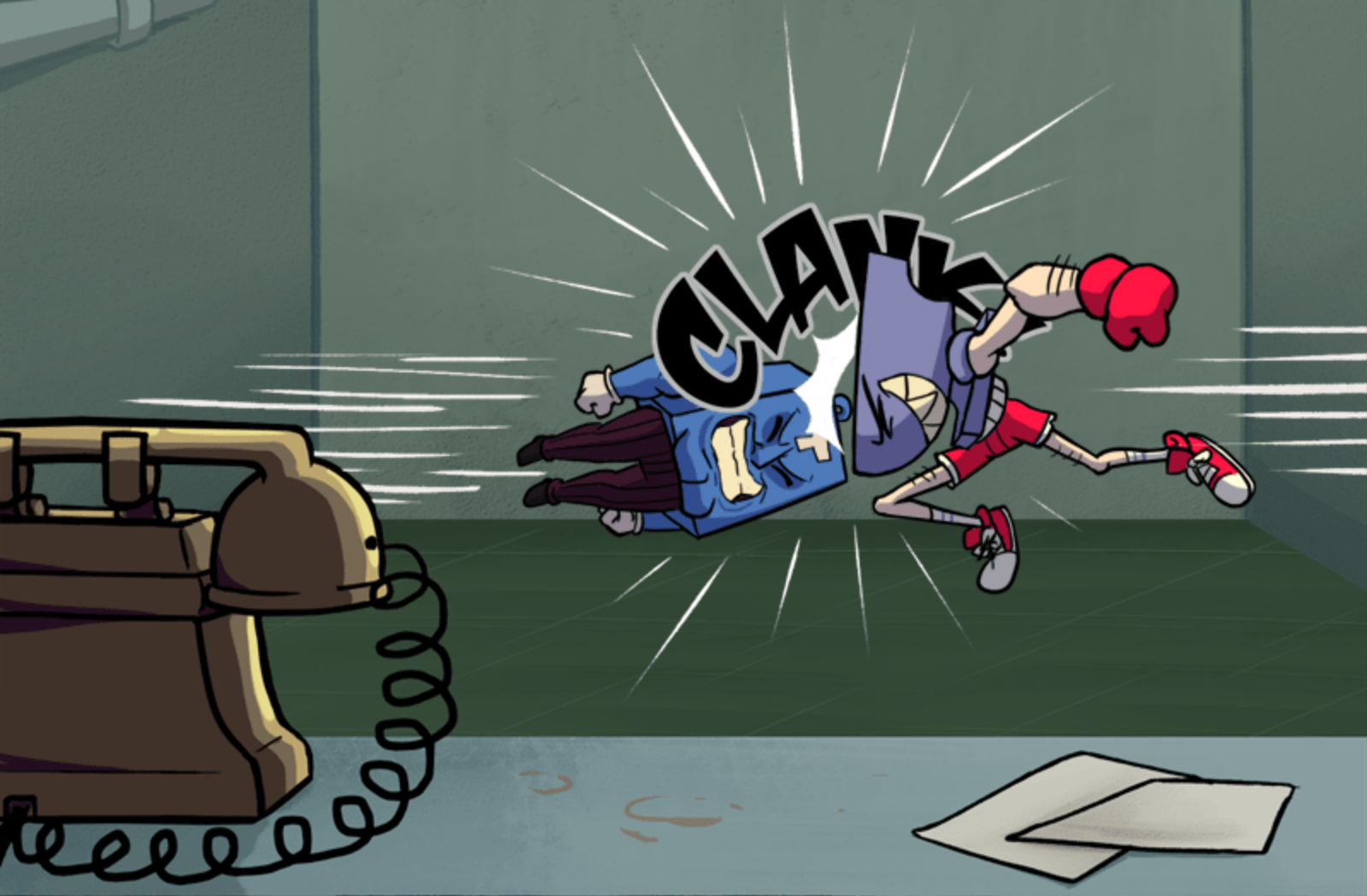
OK,
ON THREE.

ONE-

TWO-

-THREE!





OOF,
HAHA.

YEAH,
GOOD ONE.



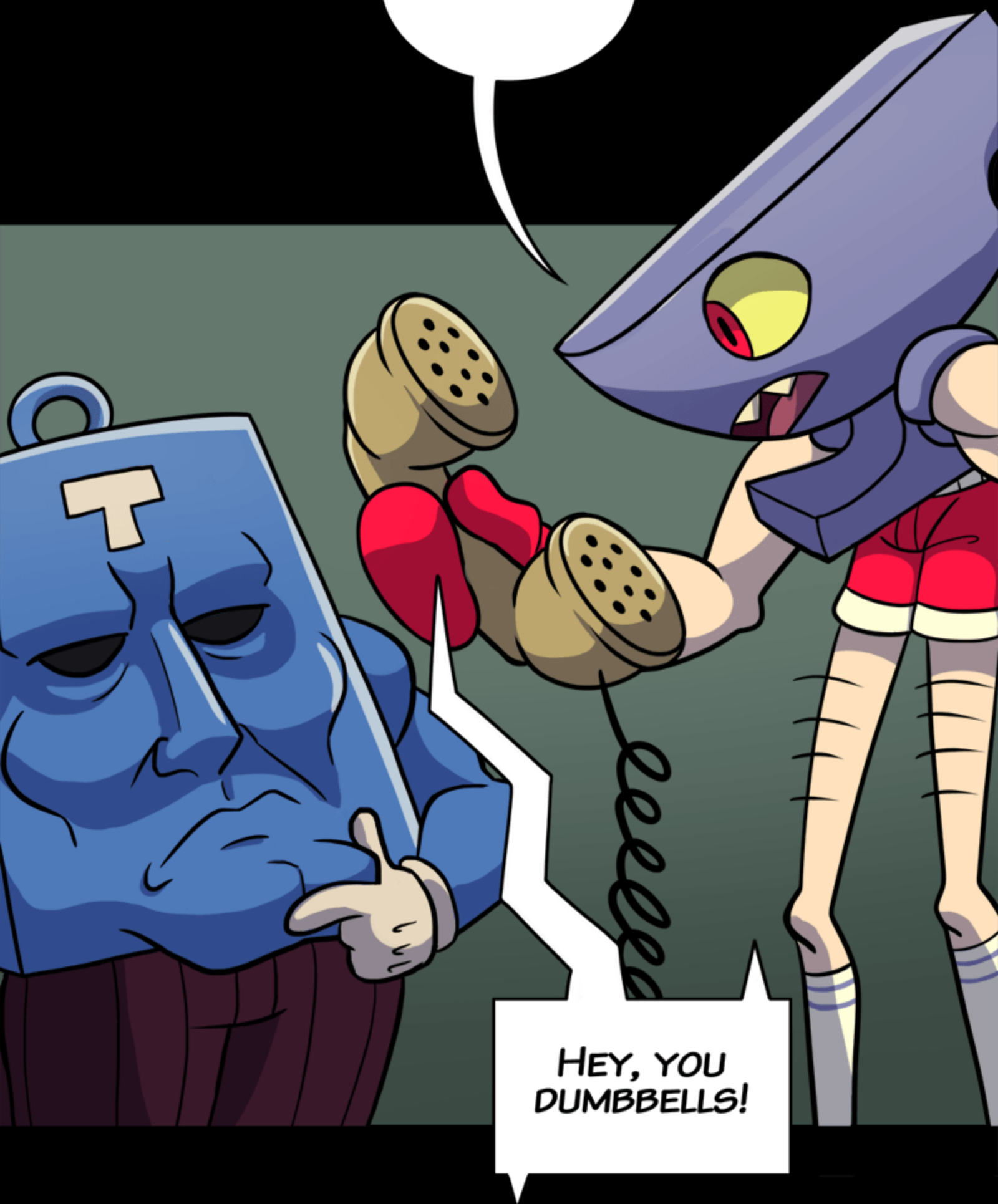
RING!

RING!

RING!

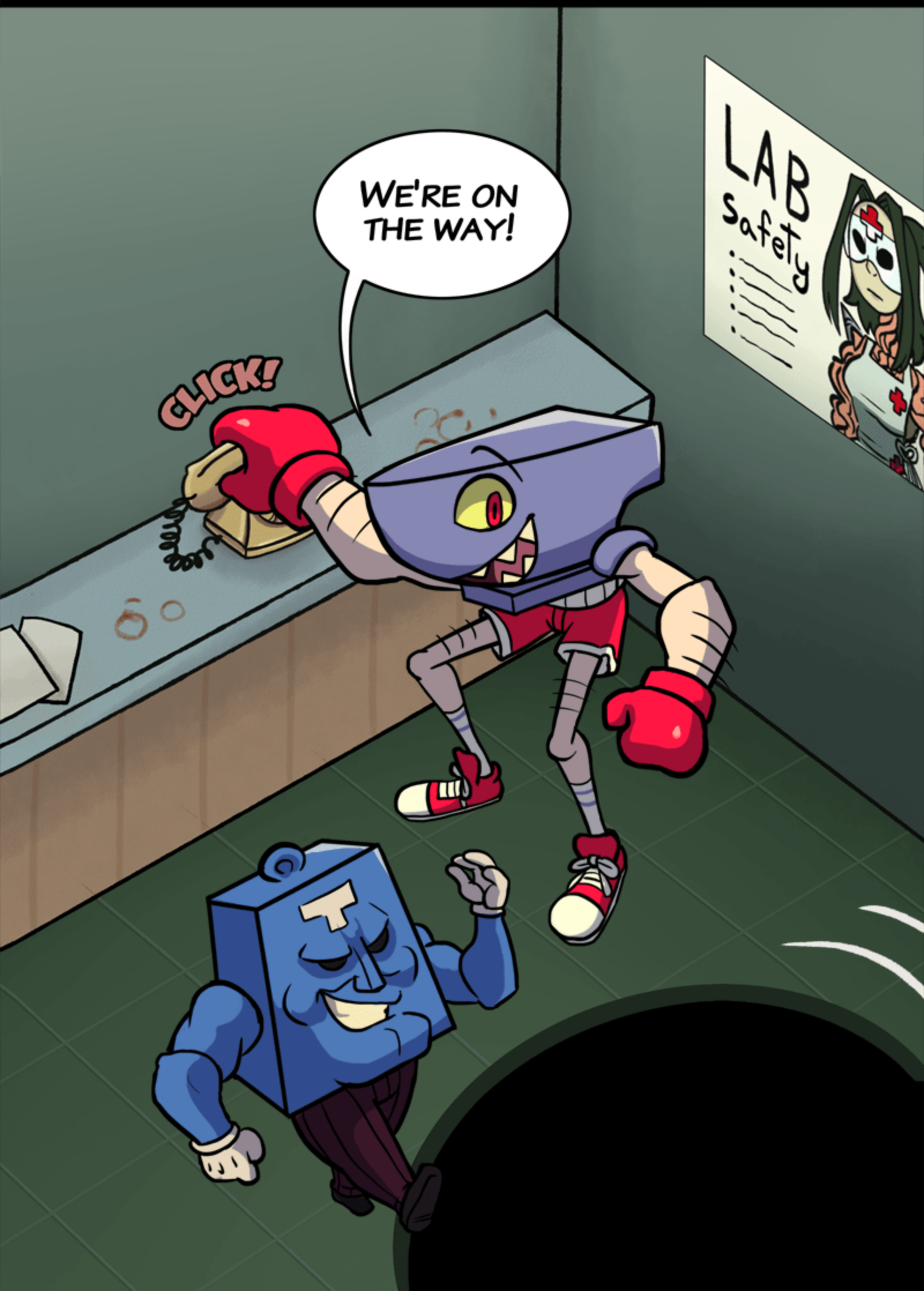
RING!

HELLO?





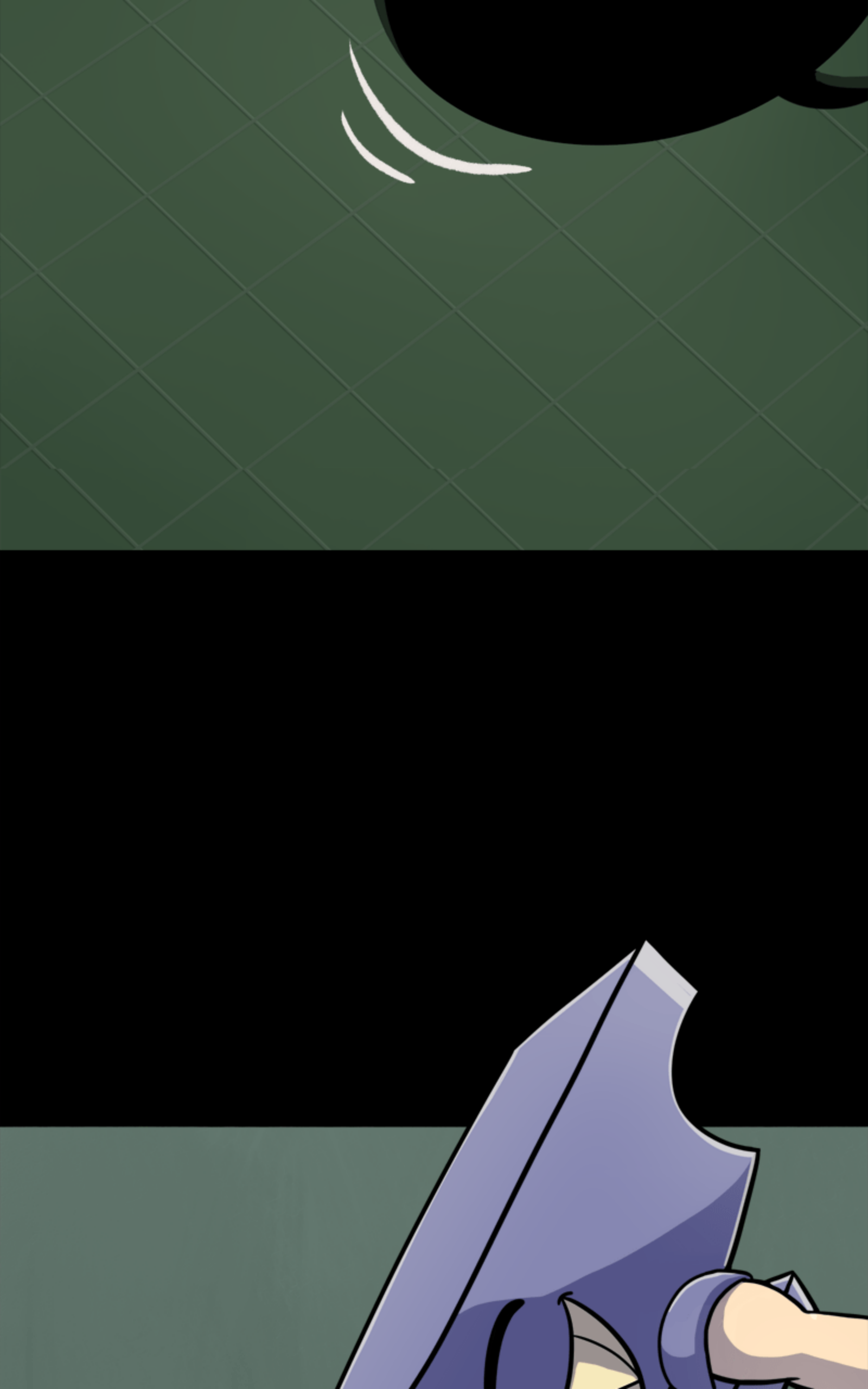
**THE BOSS
WANTS YOUR BUTTS
OVER HERE!**

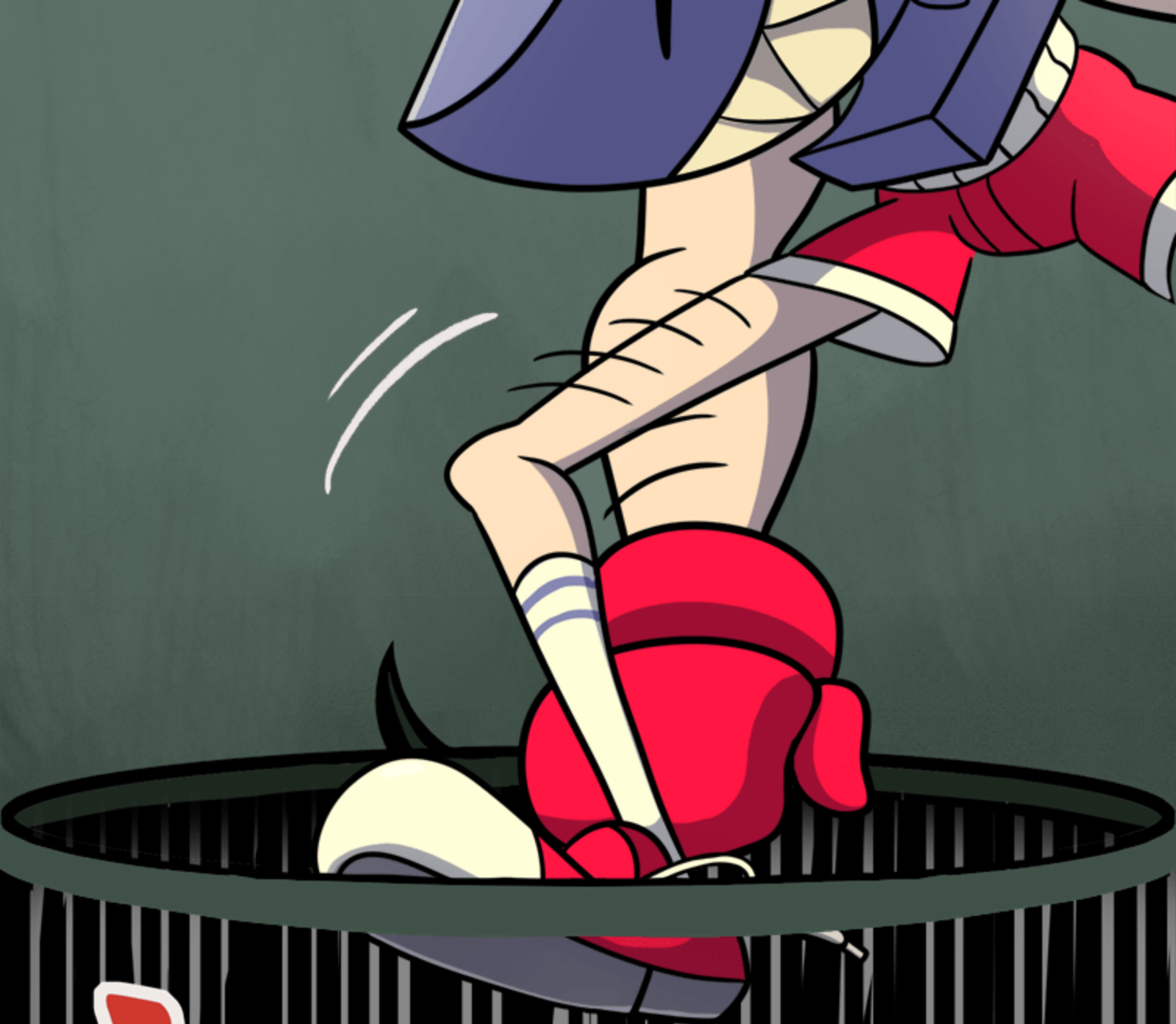


WE'RE ON
THE WAY!

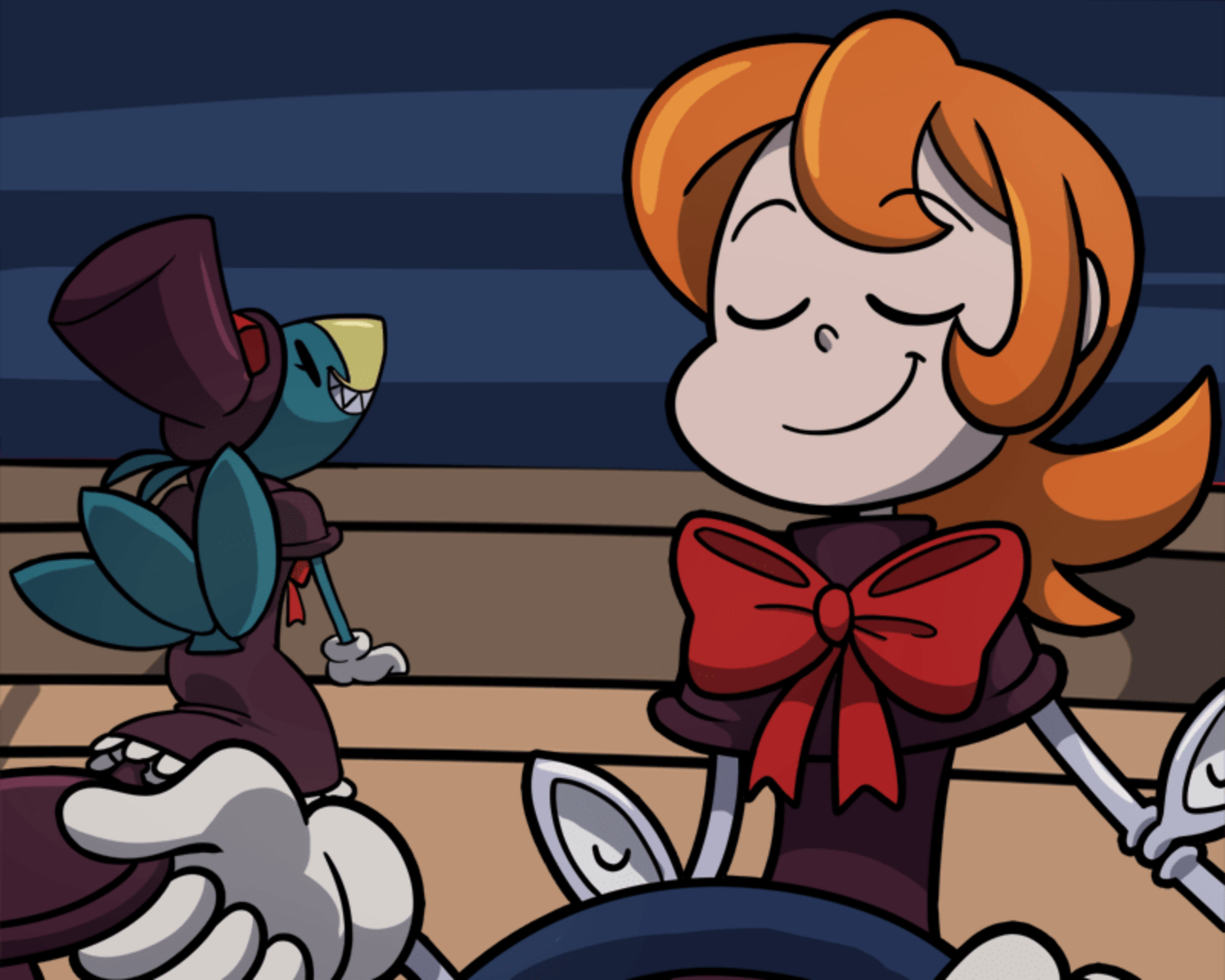
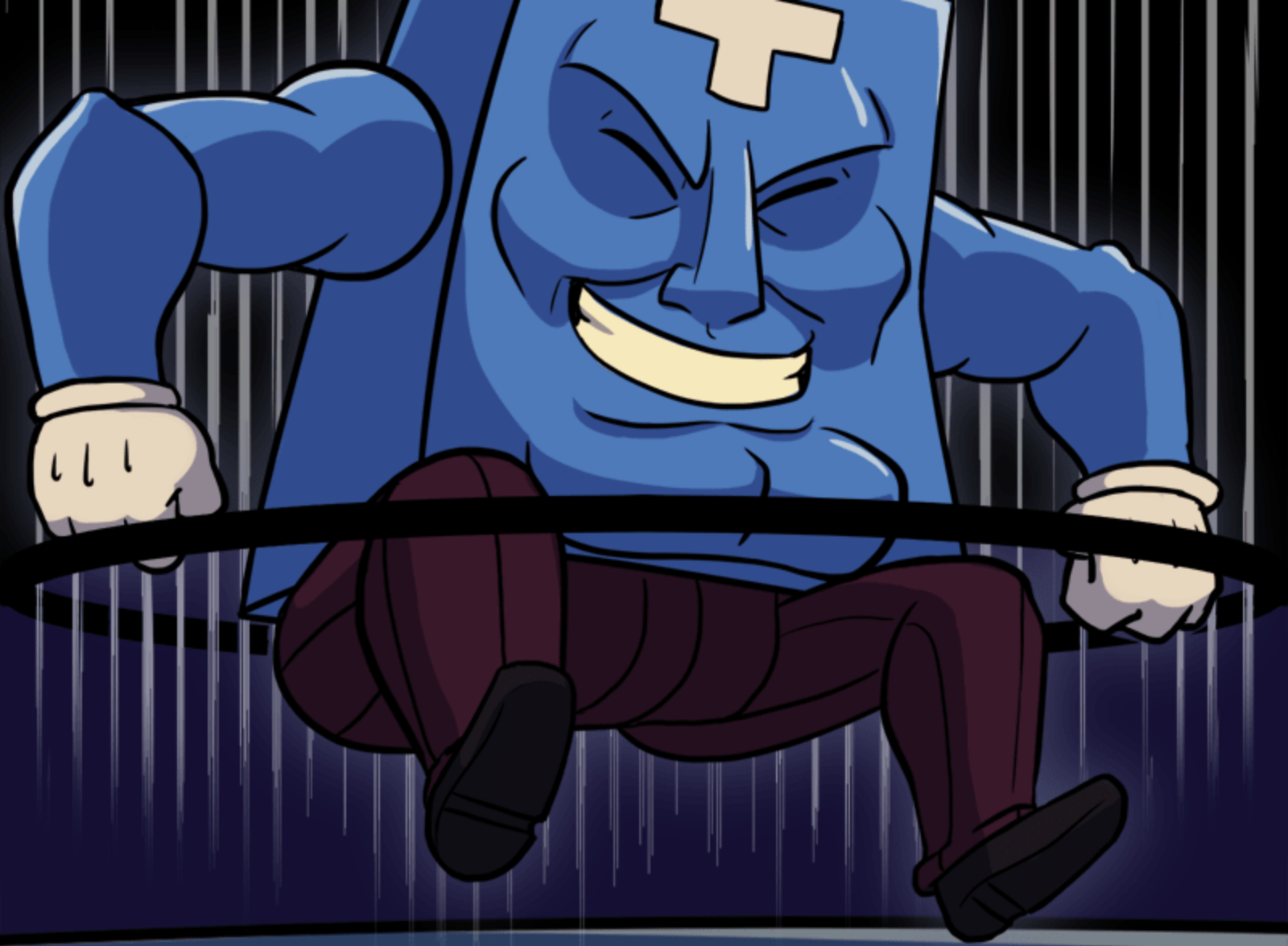
CLICK!

LAB
Safety





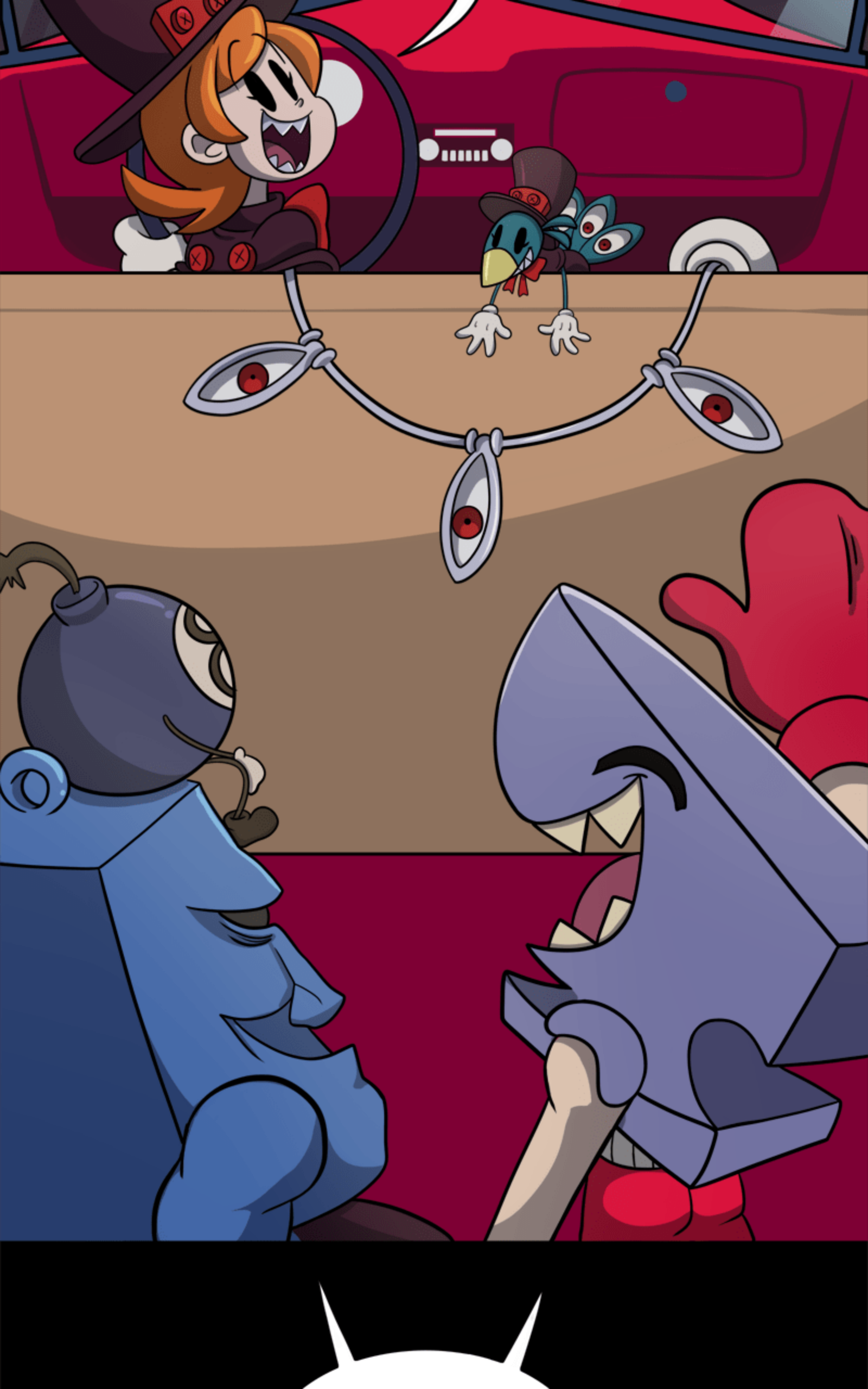
WOOSH!





HIYA,
FELLAS!





HEY, BOSS!

RIGHT,
SO HERE'S
THE GIG...

DOC SAYS
THERE'S SOME--



**BOSS, QUICK!
STOP THE CAR!**



SLAM!

SCREEEE







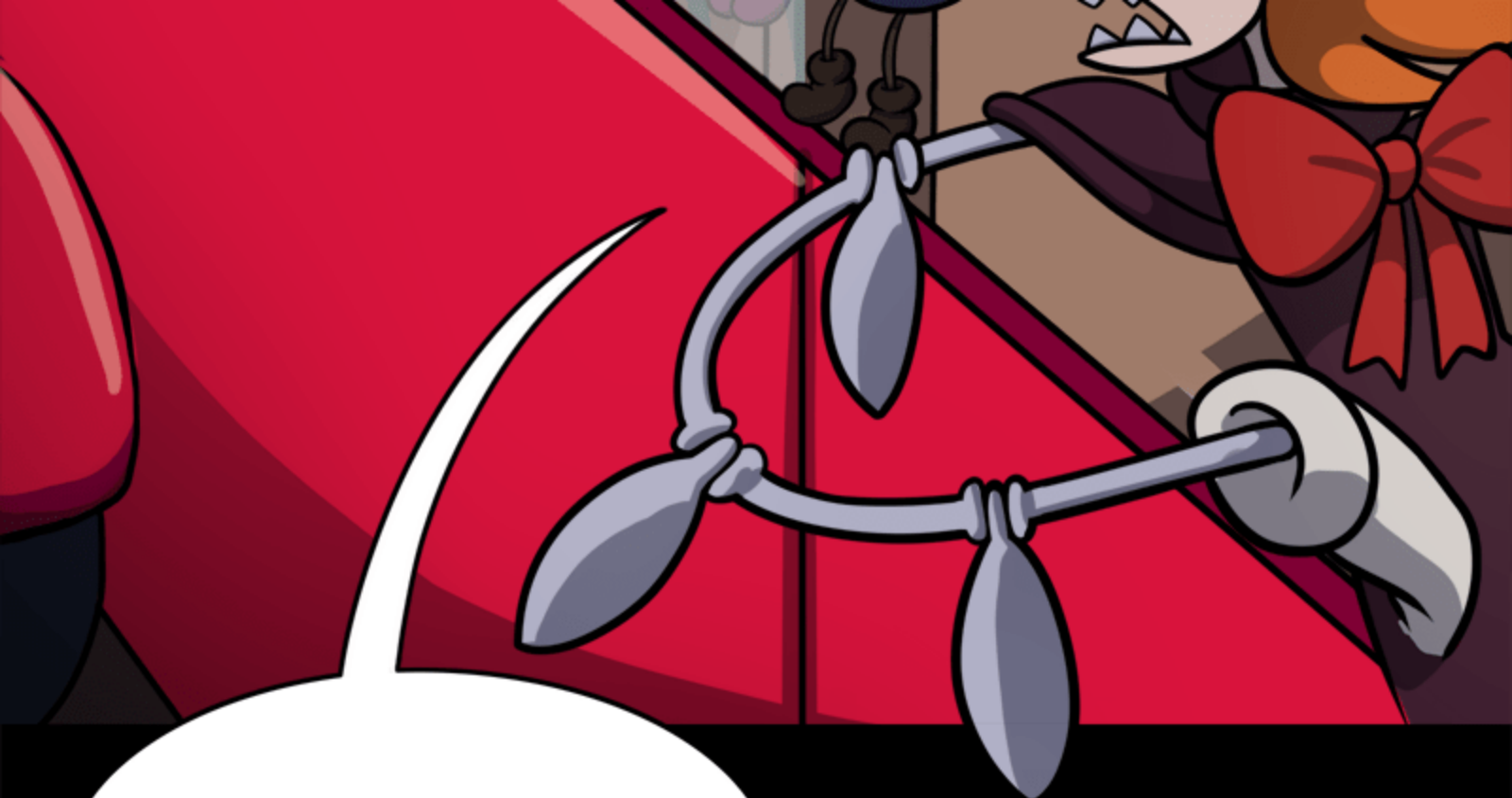
**WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
YOU TRYING TO GIVE ME
A HEART ATTACK?**





DO YOU SEE IT,
BOSS?

IT'S BEEYOOTIFUL!



DO I SEE WHAT,
YA MOOKS?



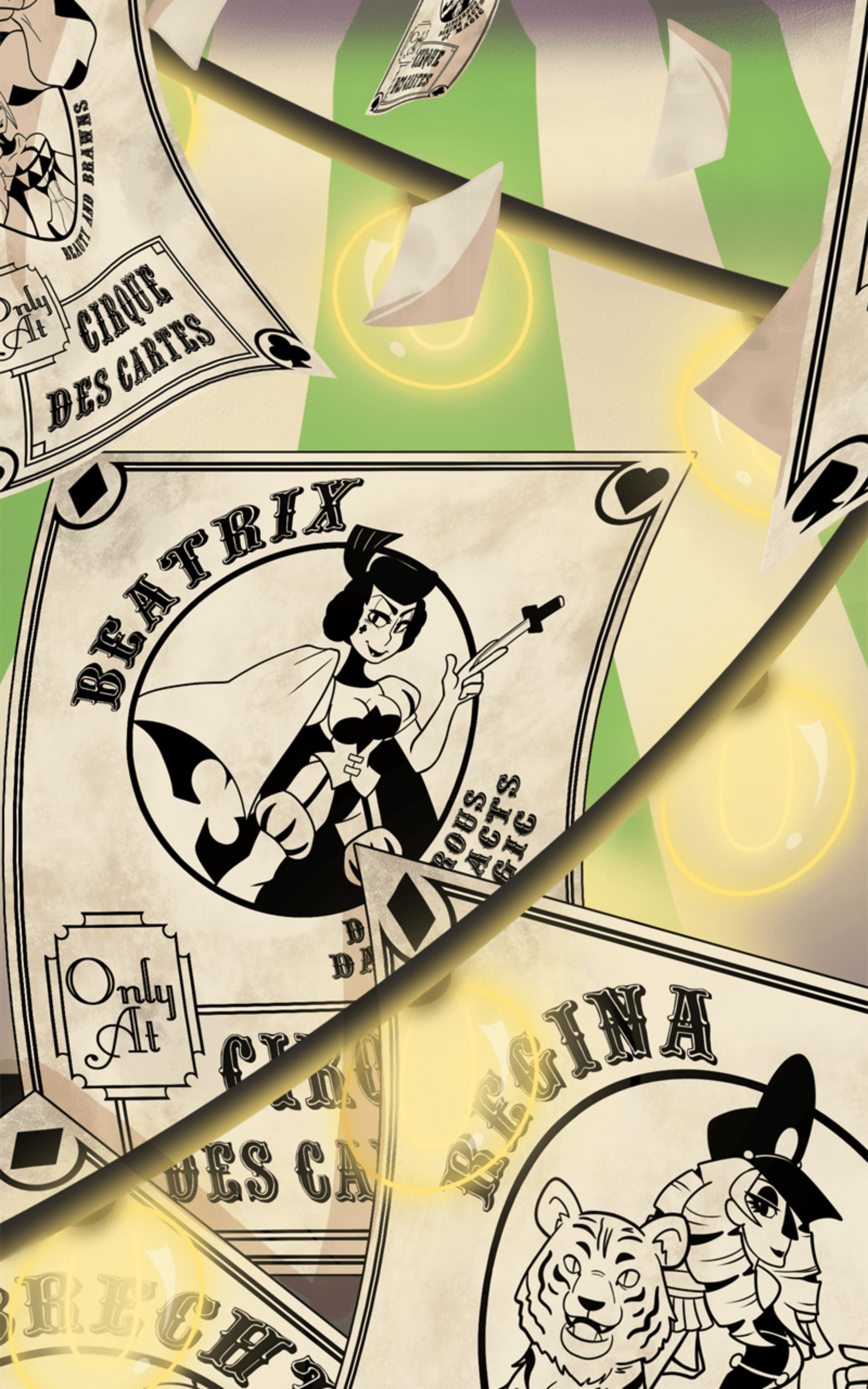


A cartoon character with a large orange bow is shown from the chest up. The character has a yellow face and is wearing a brown garment. A speech bubble originates from the character's mouth.

WELL WOULD
YOU LOOK AT THAT.







ADMISSION
AT MAGIC
CIRQUE
DES CARTES

Only At
CIRQUE
DES CARTES

Only At
CIRQUE
DES CARTES

BEATRIX



ROUS
ACTS

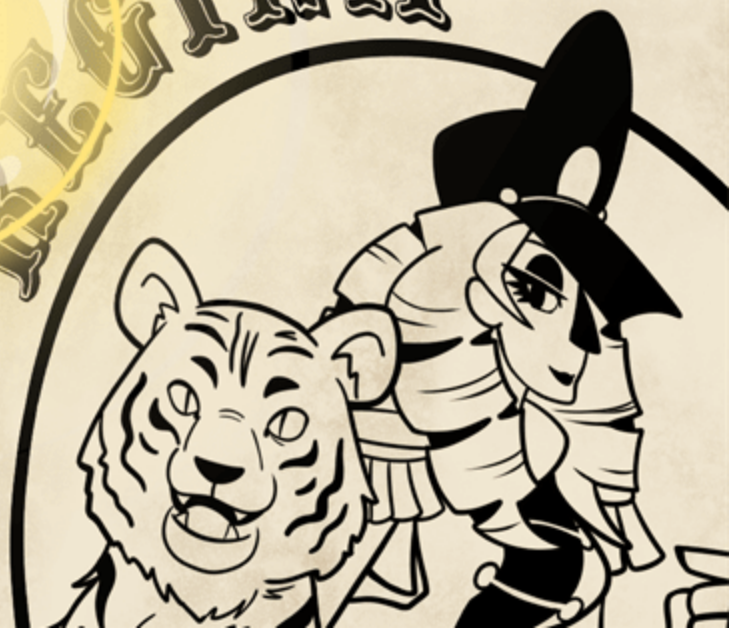
Only At

Only At

BEATRIX

Only At

Only At





Only
At

CIRQUE DES CARTES

QUEEN OF B

OF GO
ES

WISSTAN
FEL

LYING AND
DEFYING

HIGH
DEATH

CIRQUE
DES CARTES

CELESTELLE



BEAUTY AND

Only
At

CIRQUE
DES



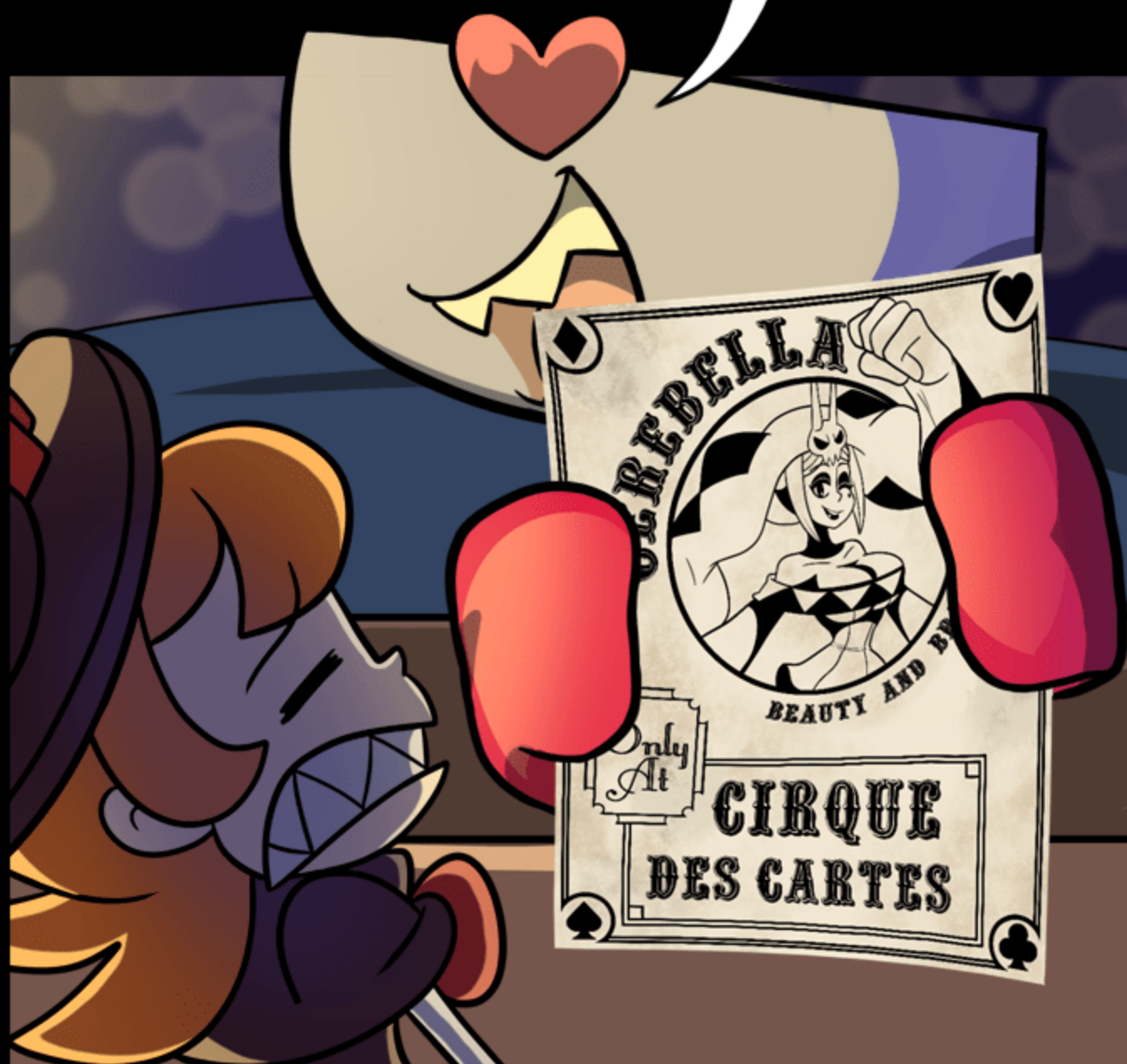


HOW'S ABOUT
IT, BOSS? LOOKS
LIKE A BLAST!



I DUNNO,
DOC ACTED LIKE
THIS JOB WAS REAL
IMPORTANT...

BUT BOSS,
THEY GOT THRILLS!





AND CHILLS!



AND FREE REFILLS!



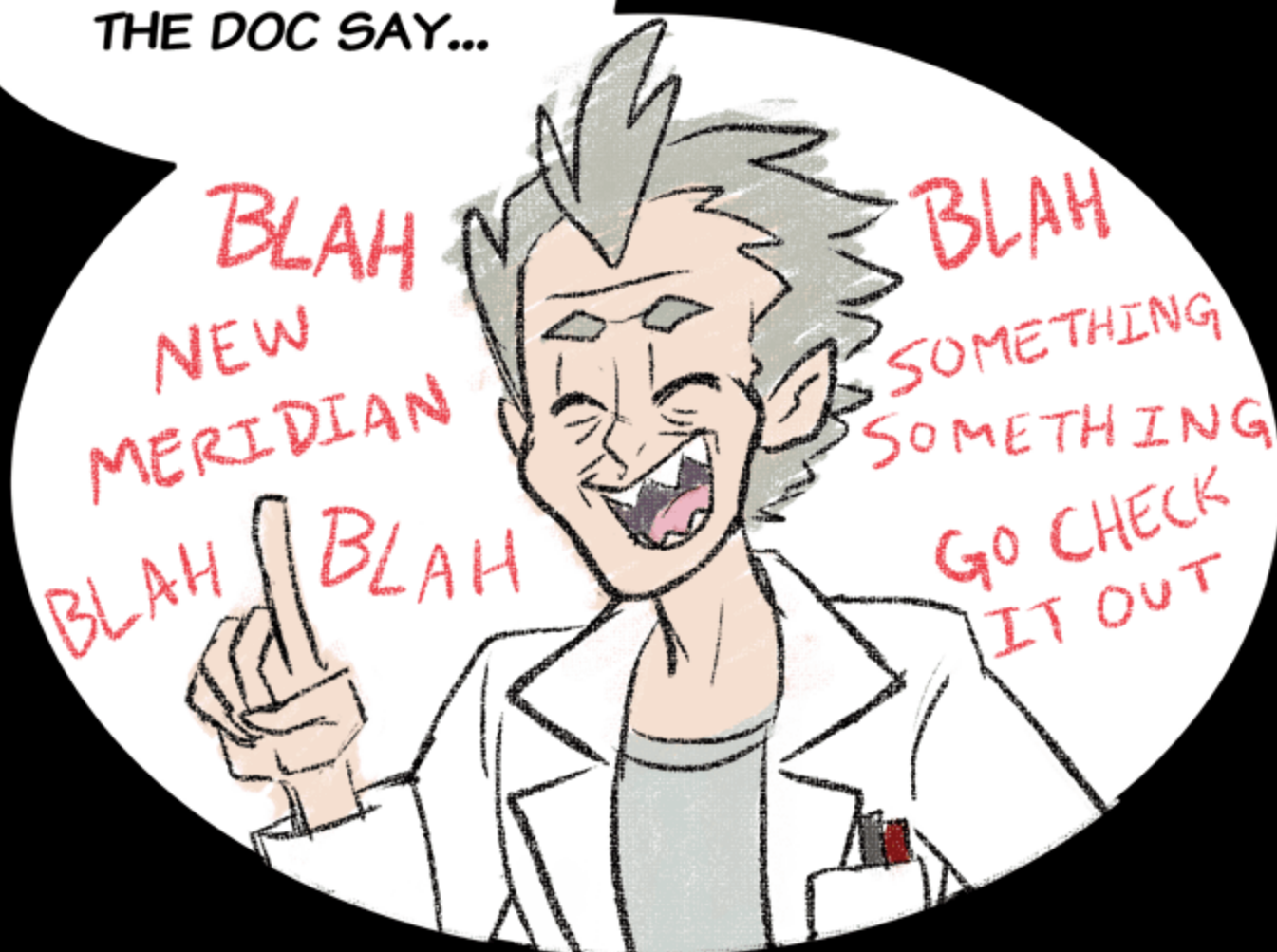
DON'T YOU
WANT TO, BOSS?



YEAH, DON'TCHA?



BOY, WOULD I...
BUT WHAT WOULD
THE DOC SAY...



SCIENTIFICALLY-SPEAKING,
YOU ARE IN NEW MERIDIAN
ALREADY.





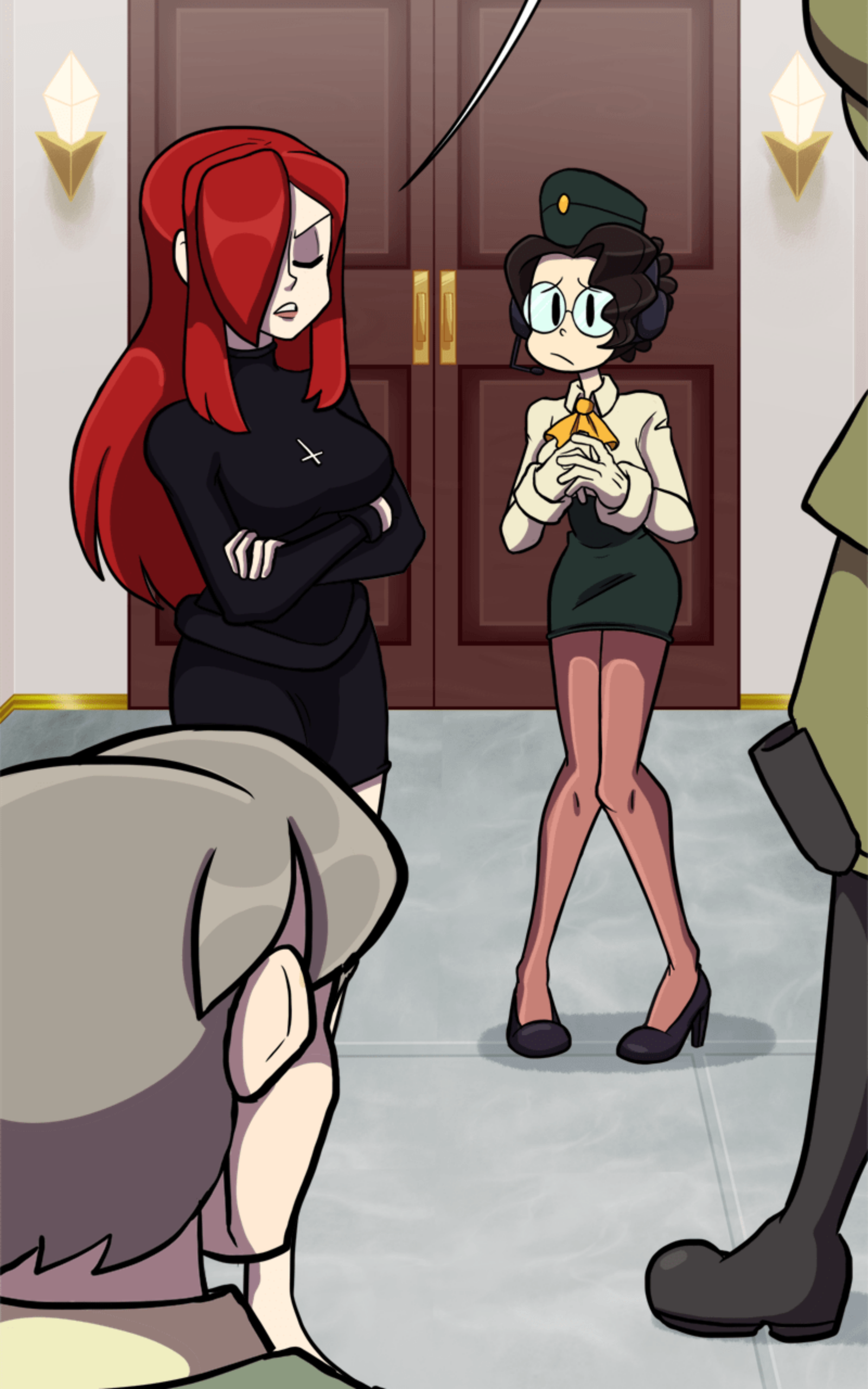
SO MOST OF
MY WORK'S ALREADY
DONE!

C'MON, BOYS!
THIS'LL ONLY TAKE
A MINUTE!





THIS IS TAKING
FOREVER.





MAYBE WE
WOKE HIM UP?

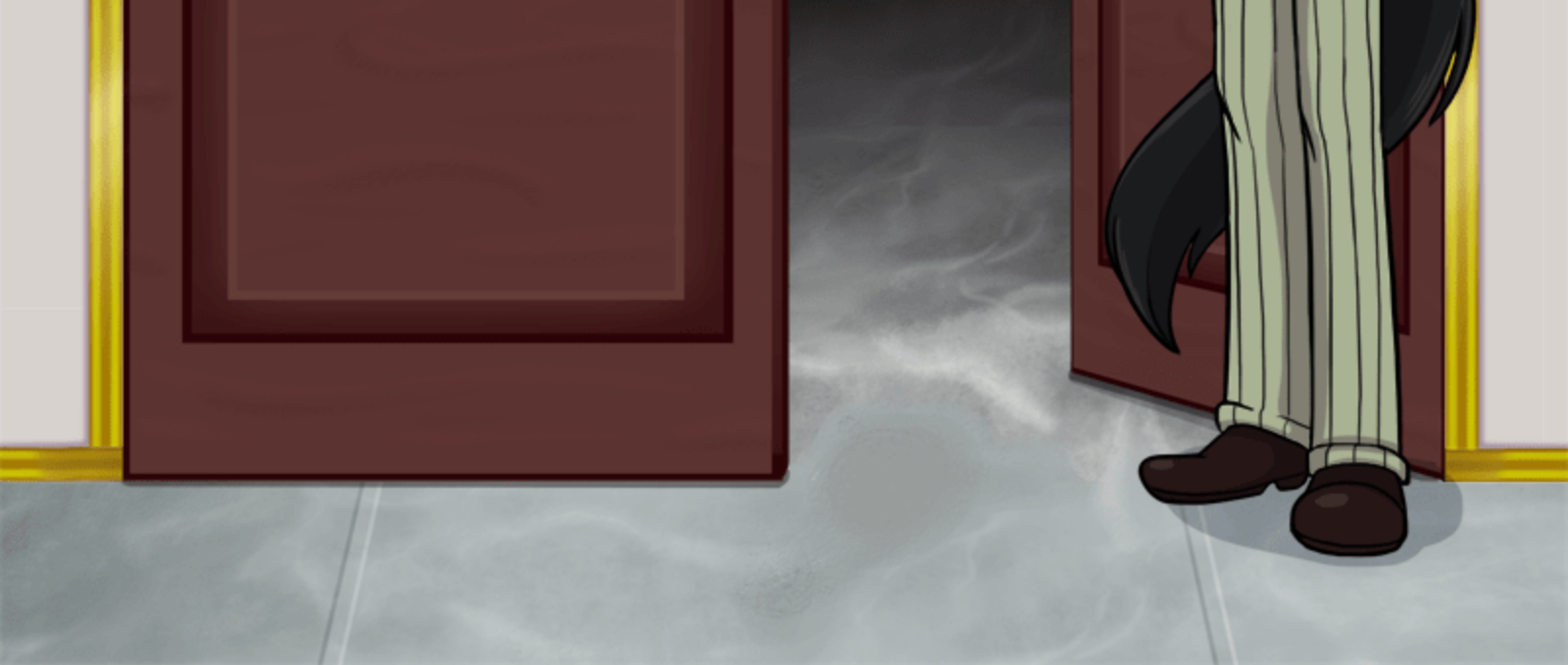




MUST
CHANGE OUT
OF NIGHTCLOTHES,
YES?



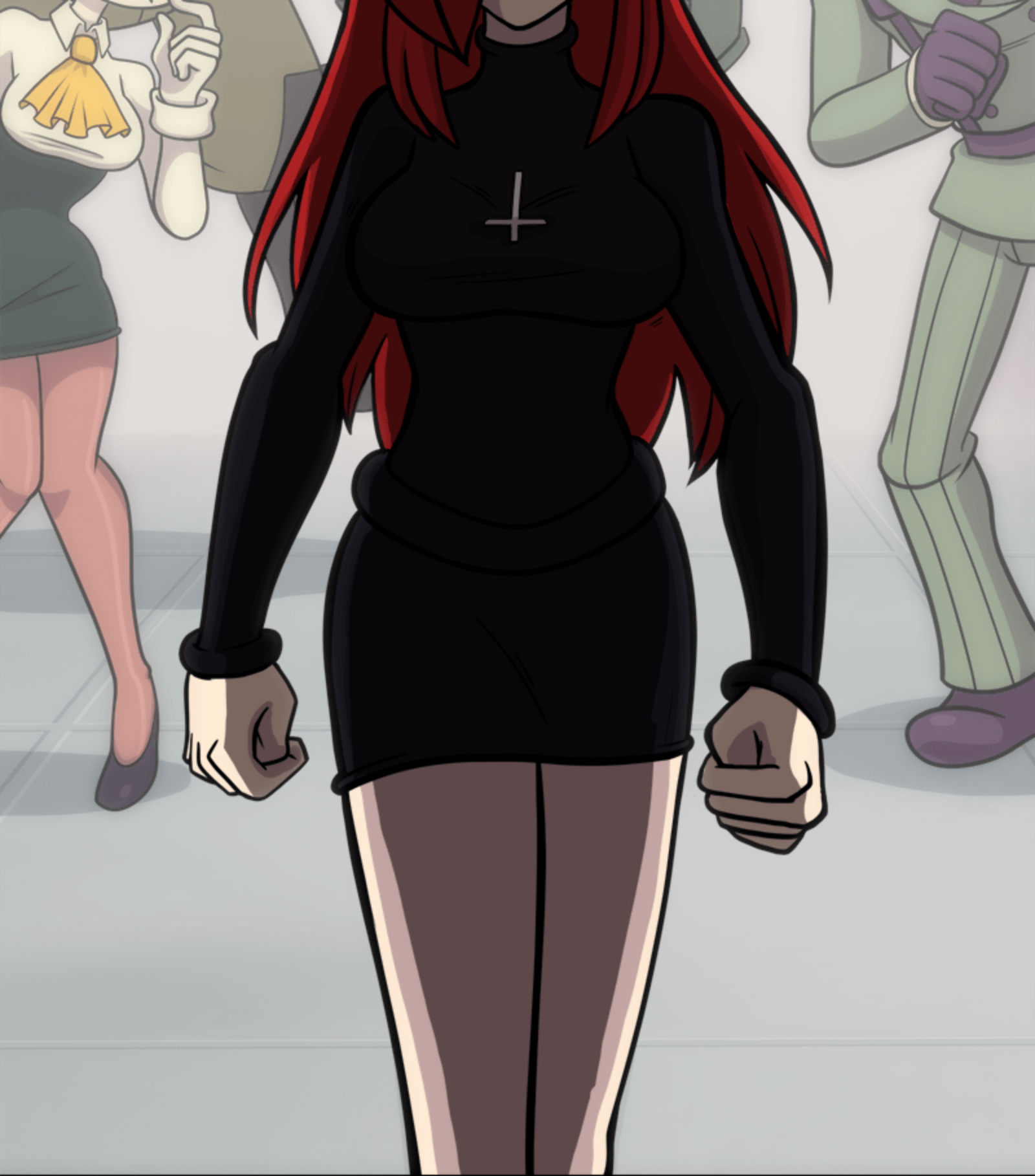




HIS MAJESTY
WILL SEE YOU NOW.



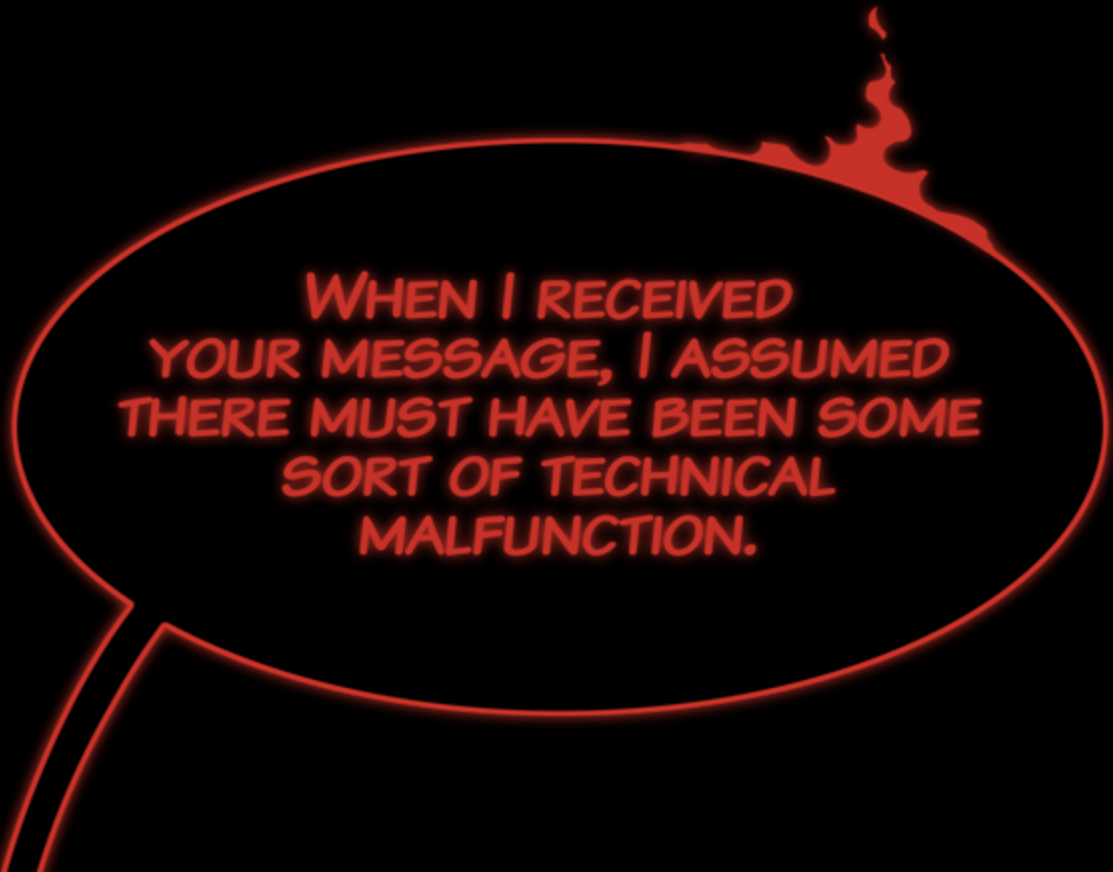








*GOOD EVENING,
FATHER.*



**WHEN I RECEIVED
YOUR MESSAGE, I ASSUMED
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME
SORT OF TECHNICAL
MALFUNCTION.**

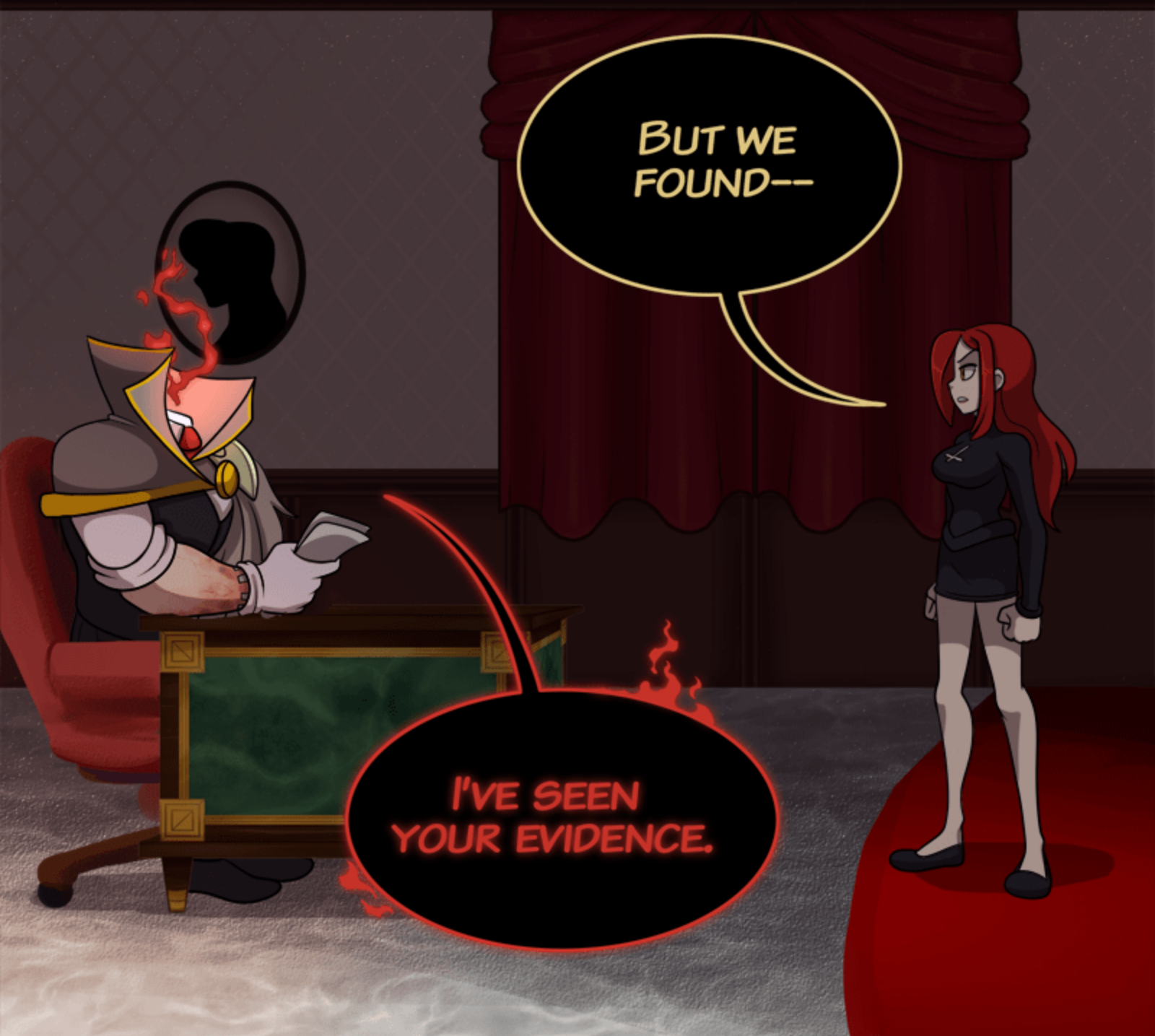




BECAUSE YOU
CANNOT POSSIBLY HAVE
SAID THAT YOU WISH TO ARREST
LORENZO MEDICI.

BUT WE
FOUND--

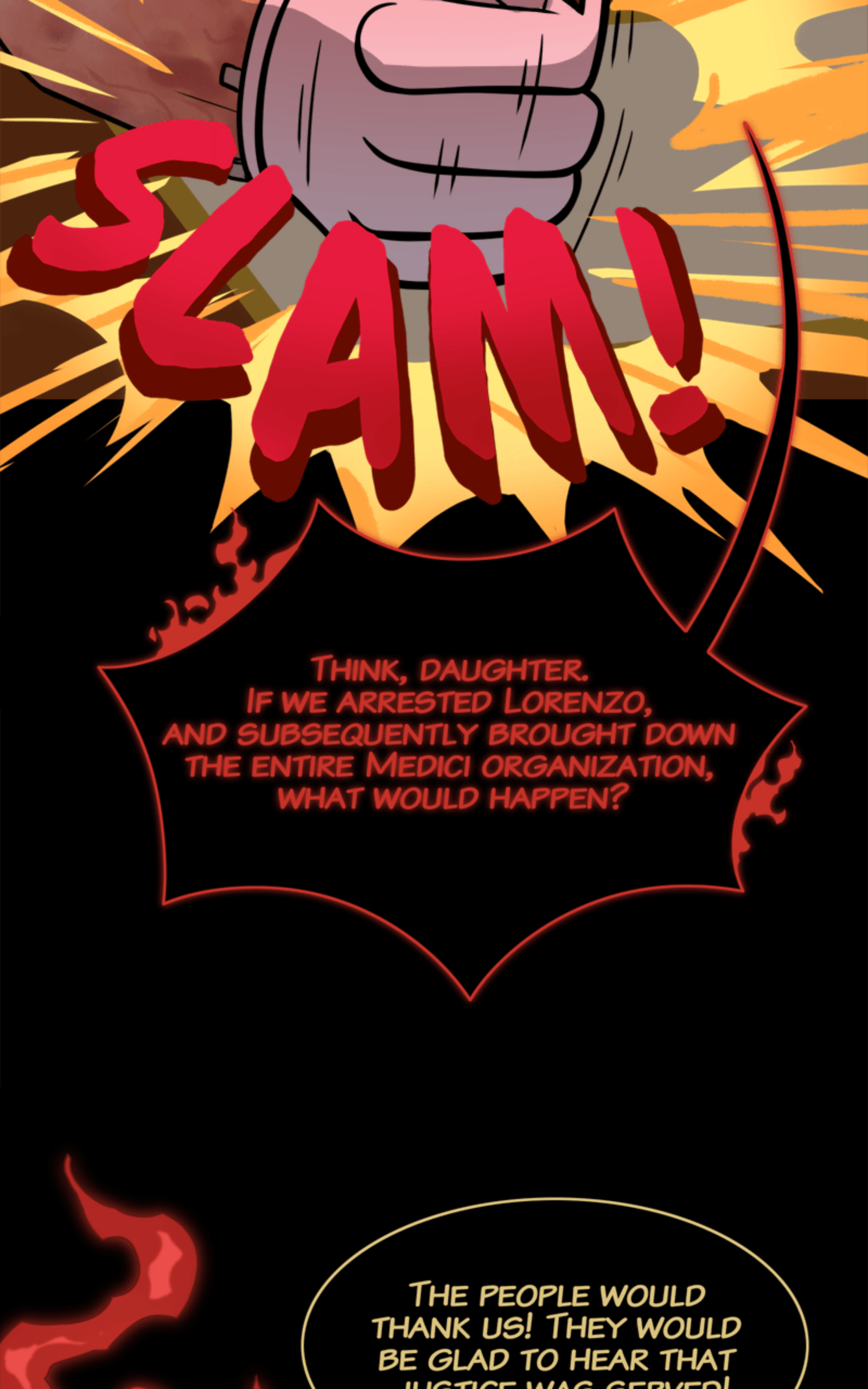
I'VE SEEN
YOUR EVIDENCE.



THEN?





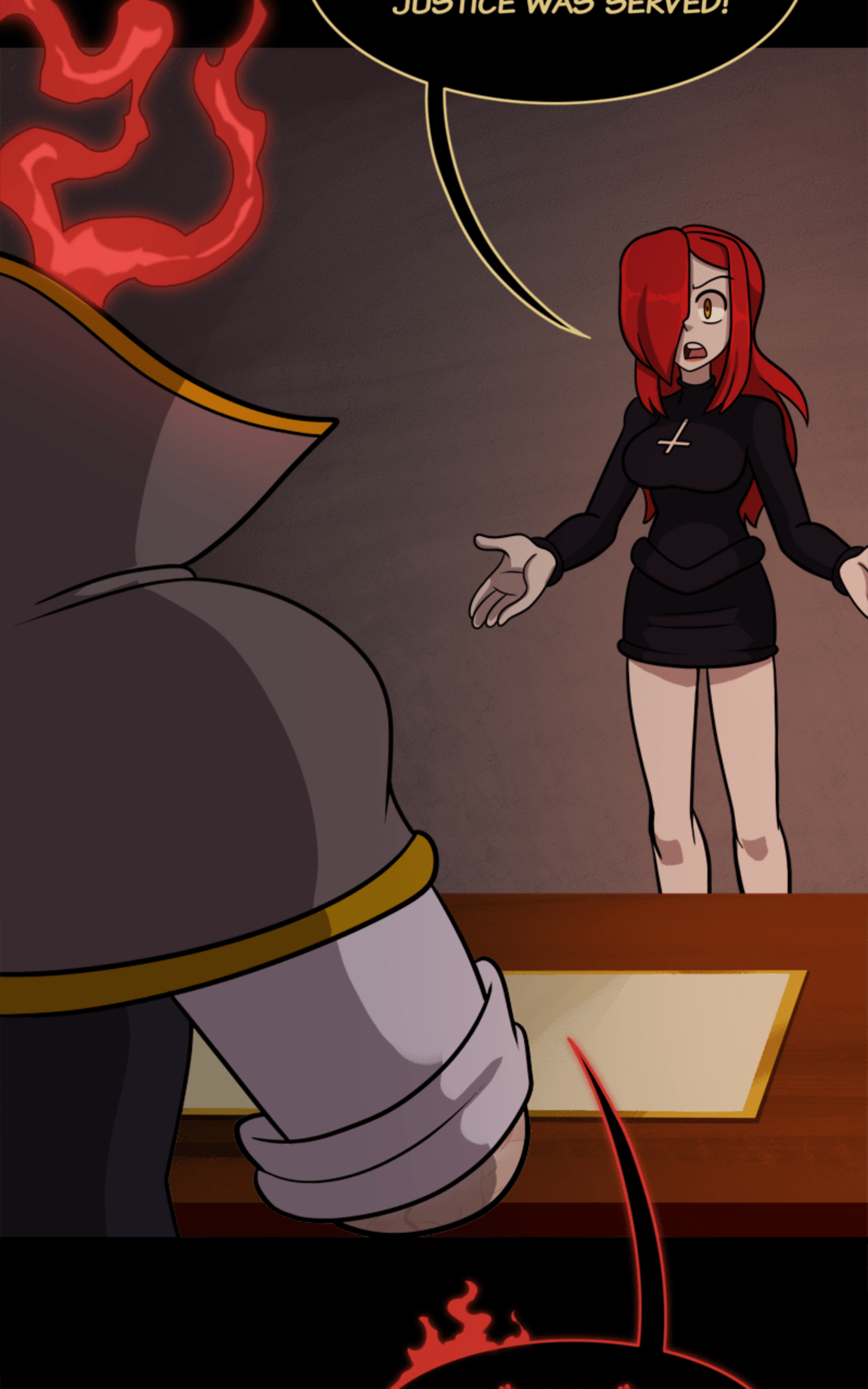


SCAM!

THINK, DAUGHTER.
IF WE ARRESTED LORENZO,
AND SUBSEQUENTLY BROUGHT DOWN
THE ENTIRE MEDICI ORGANIZATION,
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?

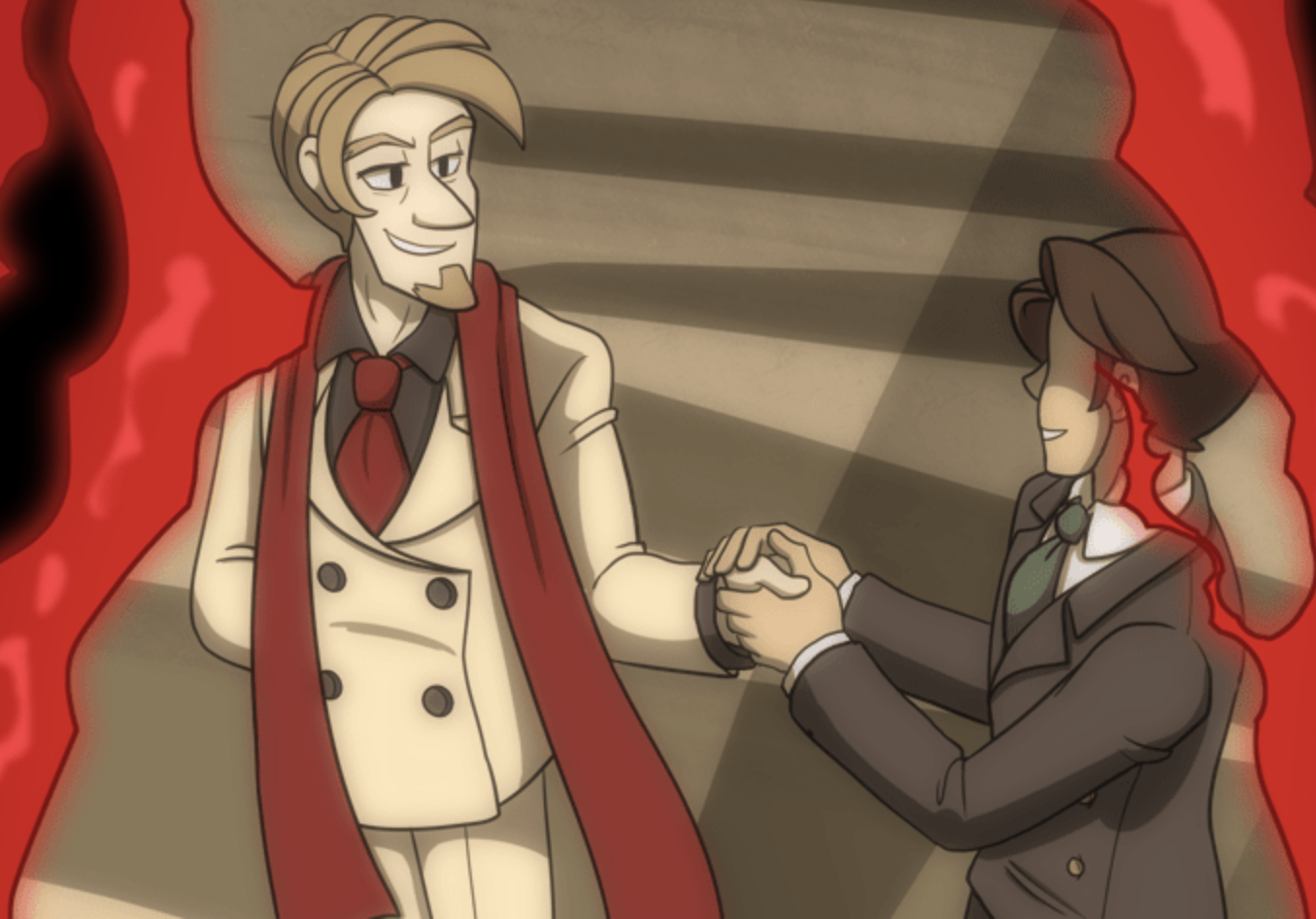
THE PEOPLE WOULD
THANK US! THEY WOULD
BE GLAD TO HEAR THAT
JUSTICE WAS SERVED!

JUSTICE WAS SERVED!



SIGHS
**YOU HAVE YOUR
MOTHER'S IDEALISM.**

**AT PRESENT,
THE MEDICI MAINTAIN
A STERLING REPUTATION WITH
THE PUBLIC. A FAR BETTER REPUTATION
THAN OUR OWN. THE MAJORITY THINK
OF THE MEDICI AS SAVIORS, WHO
VALIANTLY STOOD AGAINST
OUR REGIME.**





IS IT WAR YOU
COVET, DAUGHTER,
SO SOON AFTER
THE LAST?



BECAUSE
ARRESTING A MAN AS
BELOVED AS LORENZO MEDICI
SO SUDDENLY WOULD FURTHER
SOUR THE PUBLIC AGAINST
US. THERE'D BE RIOTS IN
THE STREETS.



AND TO WHAT END?
EVEN WITH THE EVIDENCE
YOU'VE GATHERED, LORENZO
IS A POWERFUL MAN WITH VAST
RESOURCES. TYING HIM DIRECTLY
TO ANY CRIME WOULD TAKE
FAR MORE THAN WHAT
YOU HAVE HERE.





THE MEDICI AREN'T
UNTOUCHABLE, BUT WE MUST
BE METICULOUS CONCERNING THEIR
REMOVAL. IT IS OUR DUTY
TO KEEP THE PEACE, NOT
FOSTER CHAOS.



FATHER, PLEASE...
LISTEN TO REASON.
HE'S A HUMAN--



I'VE MADE MY
DECISION. INVESTIGATE,
IF IT SUITS YOU, OBSERVE AND REPORT,
BUT DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ARREST
LORENZO MEDICI WITHOUT MY
EXPRESS PERMISSION.



ORDER AND STABILITY
MUST BE MAINTAINED.

A hand holds a small, ornate gold mirror in the lower right corner. The mirror's reflection shows a queen with long black hair, a crown with three golden spikes, and a red dress with gold trim. The background of the scene is dark, with a large, stylized flame of red and orange fire on the left side. A speech bubble with a red outline and a black tail points from the mirror towards the upper right.

ESPECIALLY
IN TIMES LIKE
THESE.

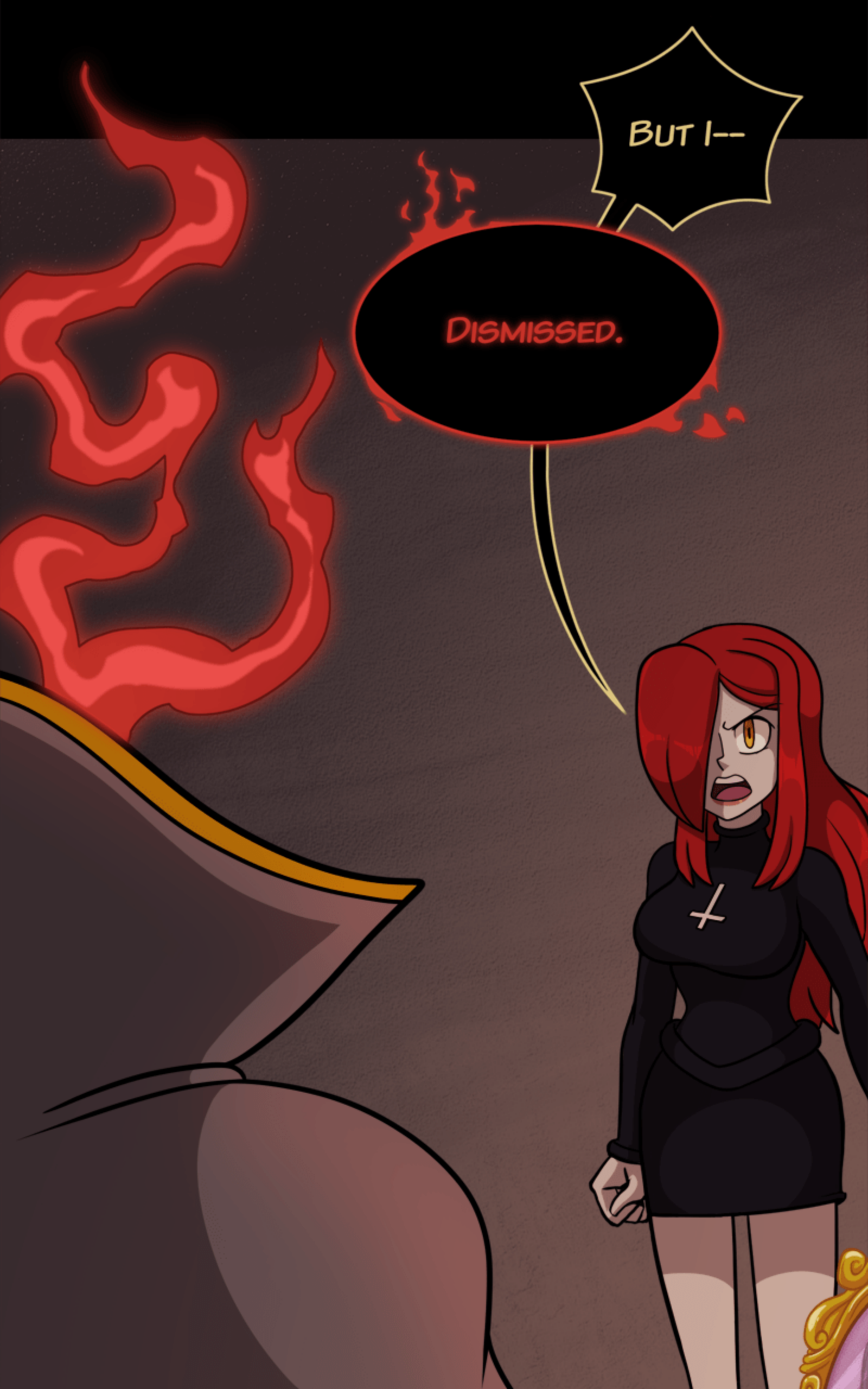


THAT IS NOT
JUST FATHERLY ADVICE,
IT IS A COMMAND FROM
YOUR KING.

I'M TOLD YOUR SISTER
MISSED YOU TODAY. WE MUSTN'T
SHIRK OUR FAMILIAL DUTIES, PARAGOL!

SHIRK OUR FAMILIAL DUTIES, PARASOUL.
BE SURE YOU READ HER A BEDTIME
STORY BEFORE YOU RETIRE.





BUT I--

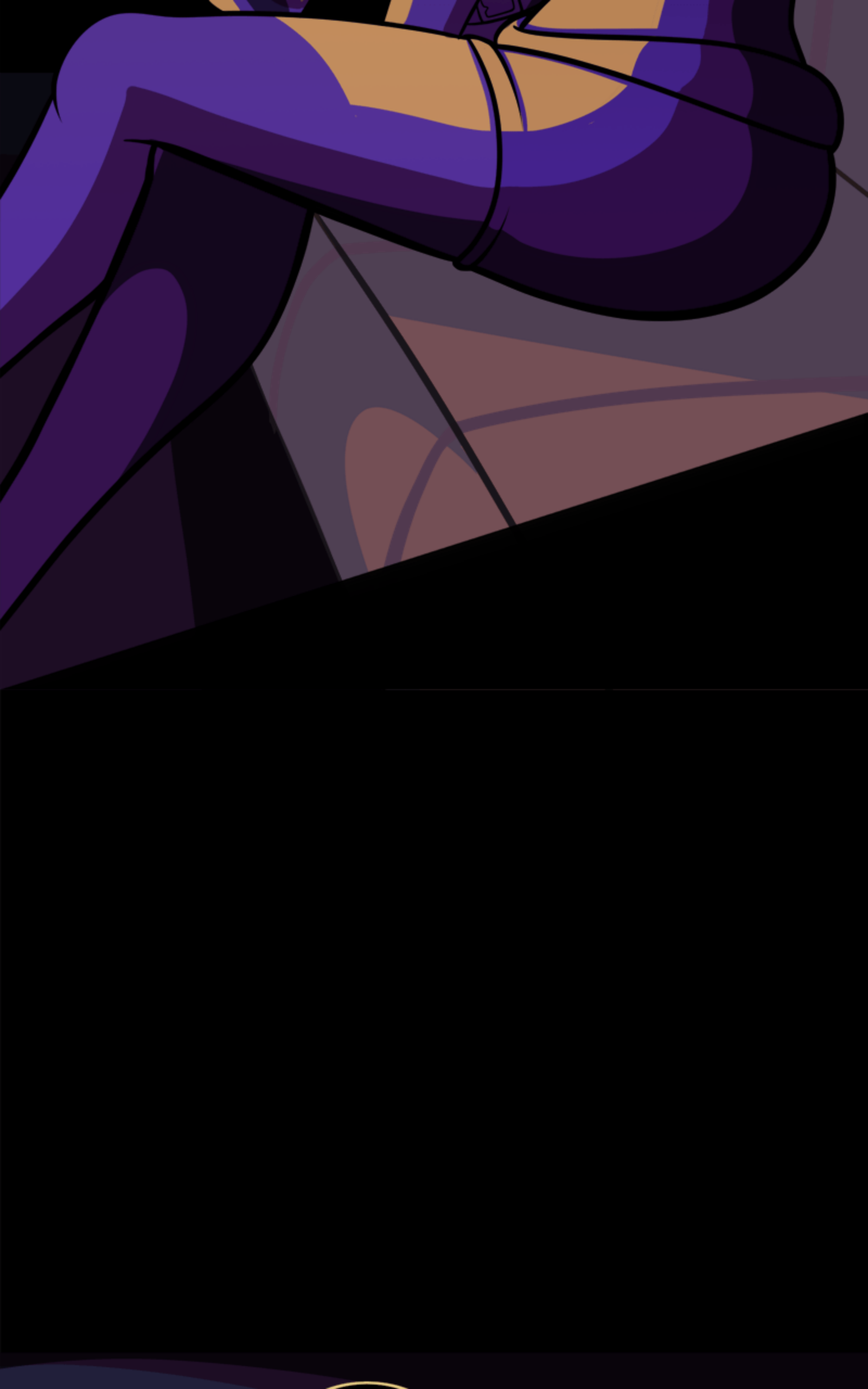
DISMISSED.





WE'LL...
WE'LL GET 'EM NEXT TIME,
YOUR HIGHNESS.





No.





MOLLY,
TAKE US BACK
TO THE CITY. WE'RE
PAYING THE MEDICI
A VISIT.

BUT THE
KING--



NOW.



